THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The income tax department collects the data on annual income of assessees. Data in respect of total assets of the assessees are not available with the Planning Commission as only a few assets are chargeable under the provisions of Wealth Tax Act, 1957.

(b) and (c) In view above, do not arise.

Report regarding waterways

1114. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that recently an Asian Development Bank Technical Assistance Report has stated that Waterways are more fuel efficient as one litre of fuel can move 24 ton-km. of freight by road, 85 km. by rail and 105 ton-km. by inland water trasport;

(b) if so, whether this factor has been taken into consideration while finalising Eleventh Five Year Plan and how much funds have been allocated on the projected development of inland waterways; and

(c) whether this inland waterways development would be solely left to public sector or private sector's funds and expertise can also be utilized for quicker development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Inland Water Transport (IWT) is generally considered more fuel efficient mode of transportation as compared to rail/road. The Report of the Tenth Plan Working Group on IWT States that one litre of fuel can move 24 ton-km by road, 85 ton-km by rail and 105 ton-km by IWT. In the recent Report of Asian Development Bank on Inland Water Sector Development Programme, it is stated that inland waterways are competitive with other modes (trucking and rails) for longer haul.

(b) The Eleventh Plan has not been finalized.

(c) Inland Water Transport Policy 2001 contains provisions for involvement of private sector funds and expertise in the development IWT Sector.